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**Skagit Conservation District**

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March 13, 2006

Submitted Electronically

To: Mark Clark, WSCC Executive Director  
Lynn Brown, WSCC Chair  
Fred Colvin, WACD President  
John Larson, WACD Executive Director

Re: Livestock Technical Assistance Funding

The Skagit Conservation District is requesting an additional allocation of \$10,000 from the livestock technical assistance fund. The purpose of this allocation would be to pay for time spent by our technician, John Schuh, as Co-Chair of the WACD Livestock Committee. In the past, reimbursement of employee time on committee work has not been an issue, as it was a grant eligible expense. However, with the current tiered system of allocation for livestock assistance, there is insufficient funding in our grant to fund the time John currently spends, and will spend on committee activities.

We realize that there was a \$5,000 general allocation in the livestock grant to each district for outreach and general technical assistance, and we have used this to pay for John's time. But that money is almost gone, and it is anticipated that John will have considerable responsibilities during the next fiscal year, including assistance with the preparation of a budget package to OFM. This also means that there is little money left in our grant for outreach and general technical assistance for our producers, and we currently have a list of producers waiting for our help.

The Skagit Conservation District has always been a strong supporter of the WSCC and WACD collaborative process, and has membership on several other committees. But our general funds are stretched to the limit, and this funding is critical if John is to continue with his leadership position.

Thank you for your consideration of our request. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me. In addition, both John and I will be attending the Commission meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup>, and look forward to discussing this with you in person.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Kelly  
Manager

Cc: Mary Anderson, WSCC  
Kristine McGuill, WSCC